

Congressman Rodriguez was recently named the vice-chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security, putting him in a unique position to fight for the resources we need to protect our networks, borders, ports, infrastructure and communities from natural disasters, threats and acts of terrorism.

Congressman Rodriguez is one of five Members from Texas who serve on the powerful committee, and the only one from the border. During his tenure, he spearheaded the resurrection of Operation Stonegarden, a grant program that has awarded \$60 million annually to border sheriffs and police departments.

He has been a leader in establishing a new cyber command headquarters at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio and funding research grants and scholarships at UTSA and St. Mary's University to enhance cyber security technology and ensure a trained workforce for the future.

Knowing that Texas plays a key role in protecting our national security, Congressman Rodriguez has brought key policymakers to the 23rd Congressional District to educate them on the assets found in the Lone Star state. The list includes:

Secretary of Homeland Security **Janet Napolitano**

Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security **John Morton**

Congressman Silvestre Reyes, Chairman of the House Intelligence Committee

Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez, Chair of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities

Congressman Dave Obey, Chair of the House Appropriations Committee

Congressman David Price, Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Homeland Security

Michael Chertoff, immediate past Secretary of Homeland Security

Congressman Bennie Thompson, Member of the House Homeland Security Committee

Howard Schmidt, White House Cyber Security Coordinator

And Congressman Rodriguez recently called up on the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a study into how much law enforcement federal funding given to the state ends up at the border, where it is needed.